

REMARKS

The formal allowance of claims, i.e., claims 1, 4, 5, 8-11, 15, 17-27, 30, 31, and 33-45 is noted with appreciation.

The Examiner's Amendment included with the Notice of Allowance of October 4, 2006 has been reviewed. As correctly stated in the Examiner's Amendment, authorization for the claim amendments was given in the telephonic interviews of August 14 and 21, 2006. The claim amendments made by the Examiner are in the main correct, except for minor errors and certain changes which were agreed upon but were not included.

The Examiner's Amendment set out amendments to claims 10, 11, 15, 18, 21, 23, 25, 30, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 42, and 45. The claims have been rewritten to incorporate all of the Examiner's amendments. The correction of errors and changes proposed by applicants are presented in the standard format of underlining for additions and strikes for deletions, and each claim that has been so amended has been prefaced by the term "currently amended." These currently amended claims are claims 33, 34, 38, 41, 42, and 45. In claim 33, "reverse osmosis" in line 2 is deleted, as agreed upon. The deleted clause beginning "the monitoring unit is located..." is redundant. In claim 34, the deleted clause beginning "at least one fluid outlet..." is repetitive. The added step beginning "effecting at least partial passage..." was apparently inadvertently omitted. The deleted phrase "as an indication" was agreed upon as unnecessary. In claim 38, the addition was apparently inadvertently omitted. In claim 42, the relocation of the word "spiral" in line 3 is as agreed upon. The reasons for the remaining changes to the amended claims are apparent, and it is submitted need no explanation.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter applicants' amendments. Should the Examiner have any question regarding any amendments, she is requested to contact immediately by telephone the undersigned attorney at 843.849.0423.

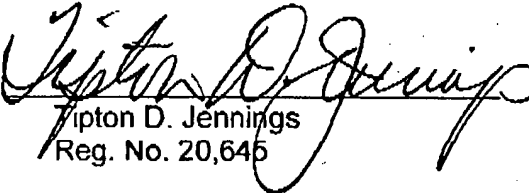
This response also constitutes the undersigned attorney's statement of the telephonic interviews of August 14 and 21, 2006.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 14, 2006

By 
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Reg. No. 20,645